



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/131,846 07/24/98 DENNING

D TU9-98-010

ANDREW J DILLON  
FELSMAN BRADLEYN GUNTER AND DILLON  
SUITE 350 LAKE ON THE PARK  
7500B NORTH CAPITAL OF TEXAS HIGHWAY  
AUSTIN TX 78731

TM02/0302

EXAMINER

BUNZL, B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2184

DATE MAILED:

03/02/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/131,846	DENNING ET AL.
	Examiner Bryce P Bonzo	Art Unit 2184

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 January 2001.

2a) This action is **FINAL**.      2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

4) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

8) Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) approved b) disapproved.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some \* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

**Attachment(s)**

15) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)      18) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_

16) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)      19) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

17) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_ .      20) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**FINAL REJECTION**

***Status of the Claims***

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 USC §102(e).

5

***Rejections under 35 USC §102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

10 (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

15 Claims 1-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gates as set forth in the Non-Final Office Action of September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2000 with the amendments to the claims addressed below.

Claims 1-18 have been amended to specifically recite analog voltages. The Examiner states that analog voltages are not only disclosed in Gates (Figure 2 and 4), but that all voltage in common practice is analog. Further support for this is established in the section entitled Response to Applicant's Remarks.

***Response to Applicant's Remarks***

Applicant has provided remarks in conjunction with Applicant's Amendment A of February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2001. These remarks have been considered and the Examiner's Response follows.

5 As per claims 1-18, Applicant has asserted that Gates fails to anticipate, show or suggest the output of an analog voltage.

First, unless an author specifically enters a discussion concerning quantum mechanics, to one of ordinary skill in the art *all* voltage is analog. Voltage is a real-world characteristic of an item in reference to some assumed common ground.

10 Ordinary (that is non-quantum) characteristics of an item are by definition analog.

Second, Gates shows this briefly in Figure 2 and 4. The rising and falling voltages require that a certain time period must pass to achieve high/low status. An unbroken diagonal line between high and low states indicates that the signal exists at all times and has a given value for all points within its magnitude, thus satisfying the 15 requirements for an analog signal.

***Final Disposition***

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP 20 § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the 5 shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

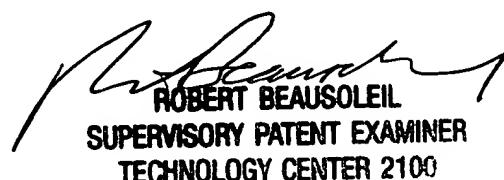
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***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bryce P Bonzo whose telephone number is (703)305-4834. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 6:30AM to 5:00PM.

15 If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Beausoleil, can be reached on (703) 305-9713. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 305-3718.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or 20 proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.



ROBERT BEAUSOLEIL  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100